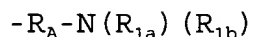


each nucleoside includes a pentofuranosyl sugar portion and a base portion; and

at least one of said nucleosides bears at a 2'-O-position, a 3'-O-position, or a 5'-O-position a substituent having formula:



where:

R_A is alkyl having from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms or $(CH_2-CH_2-Q)_x$;

R_{1a} and R_{1b} , independently, are H, R_2 , or an amine protecting group or have formula $C(X)-R_2$, $C(X)-R_A-R_2$, $C(X)-Q-R_A-R_2$, $C(X)-Q-R_2$; and

R_2 is a steroid molecule, a reporter molecule, a lipophilic molecule, a reporter enzyme, a peptide, a protein, or has formula $-Q-(CH_2CH_2-Q)_x-R_3$;

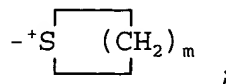
X is O or S;

each Q is, independently, is NH, O, or S;

x is about 1 to about 50; [1 to about 200;]

R_3 is H, R_A , $C(O)OH$, $C(O)OR_A$, $C(O)R_4$, R_A-N_3 , or R_A-NH_2 ;

R_4 is Cl, Br, I, SO_2R_5 or has structure:

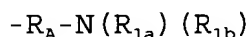


m is 2 to 7; and

R_5 alkyl having 1 to about 10 carbon atoms.

16. (twice amended) A nucleoside comprising a pentofuranosyl sugar portion and a base portion, wherein said

nucleoside bears at a 2'-O-position, a 3'-O-position, or a 5'-O-position a substituent having the formula:



where:

R_A is alkyl having from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms;

R_{1a} and R_{1b} , independently, are H, R_2 , or an amine protecting group or have formula $C(X)-R_2$, $C(X)-R_A-R_2$, $C(X)-Q-R_A-R_2$, $C(X)-Q-R_2$; and

R_2 is a steroid molecule, a reporter molecule, a lipophilic molecule, a reporter enzyme, a peptide, a protein, or has formula $-Q-(CH_2CH_2-Q)_x-R_3$;

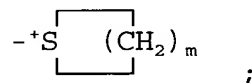
X is O or S;

each Q is, independently, is NH, O, or S;

x is about 1 to about 50; [1 to about 200;]

R_3 is H, R_A , $C(O)OH$, $C(O)OR_A$, $C(O)R_4$, R_A-N_3 , or R_A-NH_2 ; and

R_4 is Cl, Br, I, SO_2R_5 or has structure:



m is 2 to 7; and

R_5 alkyl having 1 to about 10 carbon atoms.

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this patent application.

Claims 1 and 16 have been amended to recite preferred embodiments of the invention wherein variable x is about 1 to about 50.

Support for this amendment is found in the specification at, for example, page 12, lines 35-37.

Claims 1-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement because the claimed compounds